

## **MINUTES**

### **MONTANA SENATE 65th LEGISLATURE - REGULAR SESSION**

#### **COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH, WELFARE AND SAFETY**

**Call to Order:** Chair David Howard, on March 8, 2017 at 3:00 PM, in Room 317 Capitol

#### **ROLL CALL**

**Members Present:**

Sen. David Howard, Chair (R)  
Sen. Mary Caferro (D)  
Sen. Jen Gross (D)  
Sen. Steve Hinebaugh (R)  
Sen. Frederick (Eric) Moore (R)  
Sen. Albert Olszewski (R)  
Sen. Jason D. Small (R)

**Members Excused:** Sen. Cary Smith, Vice Chair (R)  
Sen. Diane Sands (D)

**Members Absent:** None

**Staff Present:** Julie Emge, Committee Secretary  
Alexis Sandru, Legislative Branch

**Audio Committees:** These minutes are in outline form only. They provide a list of participants and a record of official action taken by the committee. The link to the audio recording of the meeting is available on the Legislative Branch website.

**Committee Business Summary:**

Hearing & Date Posted: HB 173, 3/1/2017  
HB 95, 3/1/2017  
HB 195, 3/1/2017  
HB 220, 3/1/2017

Executive Action: HB 95 - BE CONCURRED IN  
HB 163 - BE CONCURRED IN  
HB 173 - BE CONCURRED IN  
SR 4 - BE ADOPTED  
SR 36 - BE ADOPTED  
SR 38 - BE ADOPTED



**HEARING ON HB 173**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:01:21 Rep. Kimberly Dudik (D), HD 94, opened the hearing on HB 173, Provide  
deadline for treatment plans and permanency hearings.

00:06:02 Sen. Caferro entered the hearing.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:06:22 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Christians  
00:07:51 Lena Havron, former foster parent representing herself  
00:08:49 Charlie Heil, foster child representing herself  
00:09:27 Maurita Johnson, division administrator, Child and Family Services  
00:11:07 Melissa Schlichting, assistant attorney general, Montana Department of Justice  
00:11:35 Jani McCall, Intermountain; Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch; Family Support  
Network; member, Protect Montana Kids Commission  
00:13:05 Beth McLaughlin, administrator, Montana Supreme Court

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

00:13:57 Sen. Moore  
00:14:41 Rep. Dudik

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:15:34 Rep. Dudik

**HEARING ON HB 95**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:16:37 Rep. Gordon Pierson (D), HD 78, opened the hearing on HB 95, Increasing  
access to behavioral health care.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:17:27 Zoe Barnard, division administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division,  
Department of Public Health and Human Services; also presenting on behalf of  
Helena Indian Alliance

00:18:22 Sen. Olszewski left the hearing.

00:23:30 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness Montana  
00:26:16 Kimberly Gardner, Board of Behavioral Health



00:31:32 Stacey Anderson, Montana Primary Care Association  
00:33:42 Kathy McGowan, Eastern Montana Mental Health, Western Montana Mental Health  
00:36:04 Jani McCall, Intermountain, Yellowstone Boys and Girls Ranch  
00:38:35 Jane Smilie, Montana Public Health Association, Association of Montana Public Health Officials  
00:40:05 Barbara Burton, executive director, Florence Crittenton Community Outreach Center  
00:41:15 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association  
00:44:00 Jordan Thompson, Confederated Salish and Kootenai Tribes of the Flathead Nation  
00:44:39 Art Becker, licensed addiction counselor

**Opponents' Testimony:**

00:46:37 Mike Cummins, president, Montana Addiction Service Providers; director, Flathead Chemical Dependency Clinic

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:** None

**Closing by Sponsor:**

00:51:39 Rep. Pierson

**HEARING ON HB 195**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

00:54:42 Rep. Kenneth Holmlund (R), HD 38, opened the hearing on HB 195, Revise laws related to pharmacies and prescription drugs.

**Proponents' Testimony:**

00:59:29 Rep. Gordon Pierson, HD 78

**Opponents' Testimony:**

01:00:05 Brad Griffin, president, Montana Retail Association (MRA)

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a01\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a02\)](#)

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

01:05:56 Sen. Hinebauch  
01:06:53 Rep. Holmlund  
01:07:14 Chair Howard



01:08:27 Rep. Holmlund  
01:09:49 Chair Howard  
01:10:21 Mr. Griffin, MRA  
01:11:00 Chair Howard  
01:13:35 Rep. Holmlund  
01:13:51 Sen. Caferro  
01:15:07 Rep. Holmlund

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:16:09 Rep. Holmlund

**HEARING ON HB 220**

**Opening Statement by Sponsor:**

01:17:42 Rep. Kelly McCarthy (D), HD 49, opened the hearing on HB 220, Revise physician assistant laws involving the provision of mental health care.

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a03\)](#)

[EXHIBIT\(phs48a04\)](#)

**Proponents' Testimony:**

01:22:00 Matt Kuntz, executive director, National Alliance on Mental Illness Montana  
01:23:48 Zoe Barnard, administrator, Addictive and Mental Disorders Division, Department of Public Health and Human Services  
01:25:06 Abigail St. Lawrence, Montana Association of Marriage and Family Therapists  
01:26:28 Casey Blumenthal, Montana Hospital Association  
01:27:29 Greg Dorrington, Montana Medical Association, also representing Montana Primary Care Association

**Opponents' Testimony:** None

**Informational Testimony:** None

**Questions from Committee Members and Responses:**

**Closing by Sponsor:**

01:29:15 Rep. McCarthy  
01:29:50 Recess  
01:40:01 Reconvened

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 95**

01:40:31 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Gross moved that **HB 95 BE CONCURRED IN**. Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused. Sen. Sands will carry the bill.



**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 163**

01:41:36 **Motion:** Sen. Gross moved that **HB 163 BE CONCURRED IN.**

**Discussion:**

01:41:52 Sen. Gross

01:43:06 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused. Sen. Caferro will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 173**

01:43:30 **Motion/Vote:** Sen. Gross moved that **HB 173 BE CONCURRED IN.** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused. Sen. Moore will carry the bill.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 4**

01:45:18 **Motion:** Sen. Gross moved that **SR 4 BE ADOPTED.**

**Discussion:**

01:45:48 Chair Howard

01:45:56 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused. (Before submission to the Secretary of the Senate the bill was returned to committee and reported out on 3/29/2017)

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 36**

01:46:20 **Motion:** Sen. Gross moved that **SR 36 BE ADOPTED.**

**Discussion:**

01:46:30 Chair Howard

01:46:39 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused.

**EXECUTIVE ACTION ON SR 38**

01:46:58 **Motion:** Sen. Gross moved that **SR 38 BE ADOPTED.**

**Discussion:**

01:47:06 Chair Howard

01:47:23 **Vote:** Motion carried 7-0 by voice vote. Sen. Sands voted by proxy. Sen. Olszewski and Sen. C. Smith were excused.



**Committee Business:**

01:47:56      Chair Howard



**ADJOURNMENT**

Adjournment: 4:48 PM

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Julie Emge, Secretary

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Additional Documents:

Additional Documents:

**EXHIBIT**([phs48aad.pdf](#))